

What is claimed is:

1. A method of managing an event toggling between first and second event states in a network management system, said method comprising:

determining if said event maintains one of said first and second states for a predetermined amount of time; and

reporting said one of said first and second states when said one of said first and second states is maintained for said predetermined amount of time.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said event is an alarm.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein said first state is an alarm set state, and said second state is an alarm clear state.

4. A method according to claim 1, wherein said reporting said event as having said one of said first and second states comprises reporting said event as achieving said one of said first and second states at a time associated with a last state change of said event.

5. A method according to claim 1, said method further comprising reporting a number of times said event toggled between said first and second states.

6. A method according to claim 5, said method further comprising reporting a time associated with a last state change of said event.

7. A method according to claim 1, said method further comprising reporting said event as being in a toggling condition.

8. A method according to claim 1, said method further comprising reporting said event as not being in a toggling condition.

9. A method of managing an event toggling between first and second event states in a network management system, said method comprising:

reporting said event as having said first state;
monitoring said event to determine if said event maintains said second state for a predetermined amount of time; and
reporting said event as having said second state when said second state is maintained for said predetermined amount of time.

10. A method according to claim 9, wherein said event is an alarm.

11. A method according to claim 10, wherein said first state is an alarm set state, and said second state is an alarm clear state.

12. A method according to claim 9, wherein said reporting said event as having said second state comprises reporting said event has achieving said second state at a time associated with a last state change of said event.

13. A method according to claim 9, said method further comprising reporting said number of times said event toggled between said first and second states.

14. A method according to claim 13, said method further comprising reporting a time associated with a last state change of said event.

15. A method according to claim 9, said method further comprising reporting said event as being in a toggling condition.

16. A method according to claim 9, said method further comprising reporting said event as not being in a toggling condition.

17. A machine-readable medium whose contents cause a network management system to perform a method of managing an event toggling between first and second event states, said method comprising:

determining if said event maintains one of said first and second states for a predetermined amount of time; and

reporting said one of said first and second states when said one of said first and second states is maintained for said predetermined amount of time.

18. The machine readable medium of claim 17, wherein said event is an alarm.

19. The machine readable medium of claim 18, wherein said first state is an alarm set state, and said second state is an alarm clear state.

20. The machine readable medium of claim 17, wherein said reporting said event as having said one of said first and second states comprises reporting said event has achieving

said one of said first and second states at a time associated with a last state change of said event.

21. The machine readable medium of claim 17, said method further comprising reporting a number of times said event toggles between said first and second states.

22. The machine readable medium of claim 21, said method further comprising reporting a time associated with a last state change of said event.

23. The machine readable medium of claim 17, said method further comprising reporting said event as being in a toggling condition.

24. The machine readable medium of claim 17, said method further comprising reporting said event as not being in a toggling condition.

25. A network management system comprising:
a machine-readable medium whose contents cause said system to perform a method of managing an event toggling between first and second event states, the method comprising:
determining if said event maintains one of said first and second states for a predetermined amount of time; and
reporting said one of said first and second states when said one of said first and second states is maintained for said predetermined amount of time.

26. The system of claim 25, wherein said event is an alarm.

27. The system of claim 26, wherein said first state is an alarm set state, and said second state is an alarm clear state.

28. The system of claim 25, wherein said reporting said event as having said one of said first and second states comprises reporting said event has achieving said one of said first and second states at a time associated with a last state change of said event.

29. The system of claim 25, said method further comprising reporting said number of times said event toggled between said first and second states.

30. The system of claim 29, said method further comprising reporting a time associated with a last state change of said event.

31. The system of claim 25, said method further comprising reporting said event as being in a toggling condition.

32. The system of claim 25, said method further comprising reporting said event as not being in a toggling condition.

33. An optical communication system comprising:
at least one transmitter for transmitting an optical signal to a receiver through an optical information channel, at least one of said transmitter, said receiver and said optical information channel comprising at least one apparatus for reporting an event; and
a network management system coupled to the optical communication system for receiving said report of said event, said network management system comprising a machine-

readable medium whose contents cause said network management system to perform a method comprising:

 determining if said event maintains one of a first and a second state for a predetermined amount of time; and

 reporting said one of said first and second states when said one of said first and second states is maintained for said predetermined amount of time.

34. The system of claim 33, wherein said event is an alarm.

35. The system of claim 34, wherein said first state is an alarm set state, and said second state is an alarm clear state.

36. The system of claim 33, wherein said reporting said event as having said one of said first and second states comprises reporting said event as achieving said one of said first and second states at a time associated with a last state change of said event.

37. The system of claim 33, said method further comprising reporting a number of times said event toggled between said first and second states.

38. The system of claim 37, said method further comprising reporting a time associated with a last state change of said event.

39. The system of claim 33, said method further comprising reporting said event as being in a toggling condition.

40. The system of claim 33, said method further comprising reporting said event as not being in a toggling condition.